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FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE CONFIRMATION NO. 09/495,733 02/01/2000 Keith R. Schoene ESPD:171 5233 02/23/2004 **EXAMINER** 7590 Mark L Gleason DEXTER, CLARK F Howrey Simon Arnold & White LLP ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER 750 Berin Drive Houston, TX 77057-2198 3724 20

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application/Control Number: 09/495,733 Page 2

Art Unit: 3724

MISCELLANEOUS ACTION

Response to Amendment

- 1. The reply filed on November 27, 2003 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): It is respectfully submitted that the rejection under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph, to claim 56 has not been sufficiently addressed. First, it is not clear as to whether the additions of "assembly" are intended to address the subject rejection.

 Further, if the amendments are intended to address the rejection, it is not clear as to how these amendments clarify the claim (i.e., a sufficient explanation of the amendments has not been provided). See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE** (1) **MONTH or THIRTY** (30) **DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).
- 2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clark Dexter whose telephone number is (703) 308-1404. The examiner's typical work schedule is Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and he can be reached during normal business hours on these days.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Allan Shoap, can be reached at (703)308-1082.

Art Unit: 3724

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-1148. The fax numbers Technology Center 3700 are: after-final responses - (703)872-9303; other formal/official papers - (703)872-9302. The fax number for informal/draft papers - (703)305-9835.

Clark F. Dexter Primary Examiner Art Unit 3724

cfd February 23, 2004